

Private Aids to Navigation

MOORING BUOYS

Color: White with a blue band (Federal Color Numbers 27875 and 15182).

Appearance: The buoy body shall be white with a narrow blue band located midway between the buoy top and the waterline.

Characters: The buoy may display from one to three sets of black non-reflective letters (A-Z, excluding I and O), sized to fit onto the white retro-reflective panels. Multiple letters are displayed horizontally (side by side). Numbers shall not be used as they are reserved for lateral aids only.

Retro Panels: Three white panels spaced 120° apart, with a minimum height of 6 in. and a width of two-thirds of the buoy diameter at the point of attachment.

An unlighted mooring buoy is regulated by the state or territory whose waters the buoy is located in. A lighted mooring buoy is considered a private aid to navigation and must be permitted through the Coast Guard. If lighted, it shall display a white light at the top.

